



**WELFARE PEER TA NETWORK ROUNDTABLE**  
***Improving Performance and Participation***  
***in Large Urban Centers***  
Marina del Rey, CA  
July 28-29, 2005



**AGENDA**

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**July 28, 2005**

7:30 – 8:30 AM      **Registration and Networking Session**

8:30 – 9:00 AM      **Welcome and Introductions**

*Lois A. Bell*  
*Director*  
*Division of State and Territory TANF Management*  
*Office of Family Assistance*  
*Administration for Children and Families*

*Dennis Boyle*  
*Director*  
*California Department of Social Services*

*Bryce Yokomizo*  
*Director*  
*Los Angeles County Department of Public Social Services*

9:00 – 9:30 AM      **Vision of the Next Phase of Welfare Reform**

*Lois A. Bell*  
*Director*  
*Division of State and Territory TANF Management*  
*Office of Family Assistance*  
*Administration for Children and Families*

*Marva Arnold*  
*Director*  
*Division of Human Capital Development*  
*IL Department of Human Services*

*Robert Doar*  
*Commissioner*  
*NYS Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance*

*Larry Temple*  
*Executive Director*  
*Texas Workforce Commission*

*Kathy Yorkievtz*  
*Deputy Secretary for Income Maintenance*  
*PA Department of Public Welfare*

As big urban areas move towards addressing the key issue of full engagement, this TA

event will provide cities with an opportunity to focus on participation rates; performance management; strategies for addressing caseloads with multiple issues; and crafting collaborations with partners to effectively meet the many challenges of TANF agencies. Federal and State leadership will share their visions for welfare reform.

9:30 – 10:30 AM

**Performance Management and Contracting**

Big cities can get their best performance boost through the use of contract incentives with private vendors. This topic will consider the use of internal staff incentives, and the merits of decentralization of program operations (regionalization).

**Speakers:** *Houston – How a Workforce Development Board re-organized for TANF*  
*Los Angeles – Use of Data for Performance Management*  
*New York – JOBSTAT*  
*Atlanta – Report Card*

**Moderator:** *Lisa Washington-Thomas*  
*Program Specialist*  
*Division of State and Territory TANF Management*

10:30 – 10:45AM

**Break**

10:45 – 12:15 PM

**Performance Management and Contracting (cont.)**

12:15 – 1:30 PM

**Working Luncheon – Presentation by Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services**

This session will discuss the Prescription Drug Benefit and the Medicare Advantage Program and the implication for TANF child only cases.

**Speakers:** *Steve Deering*  
*Deputy Regional Administrator*  
*Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Region IX*

**Moderator:** *James Butler*  
*Program Specialist*  
*Division of State and Territory TANF Management*

1:30 – 2:30 PM

**Diversion and Immediate Employment**

Diversion strategies are intended to assist families to avoid welfare by helping them overcome short-term barriers to self-sufficiency. Cities will discuss and outline the benefits of diversion strategies and immediate employment. Cities will share innovative approaches, service impacts and the efficiency of upfront resources to TANF customers during application.

**Speakers:** *Chicago*  
*New York*  
*Minneapolis*

**Moderator:** *James Butler*  
*Program Specialist*  
*Division of State and Territory TANF Management*

2:30 – 2:45 PM

**Break**

2:45 – 4:00 PM

**Saturation Engagement**

Cities will discuss saturation engagement; engaging exempt individuals; minimizing periods of inactivity; blended activities; the use of Information Technology and data to support engagement.

**Speakers:** *New York City  
Philadelphia  
Atlanta*

**Moderator:** *Al Fleming  
Program Specialist  
Division of State and Territory TANF Management*

4:00 – 5:30 PM

**Work Experience and Subsidized Employment**

Many cities are concerned as to how to create a large-scale program which will engage the hard-to-serve including those with little or no attachment to the workforce. This session will also discuss the use of subsidized private employment as a supplement to work experience.

**Speakers:** *Philadelphia – Subsidized Work Experience  
Chicago – FSET Earnfare*

**Moderator:** *Lisa Washington-Thomas  
Program Specialist  
Division of State and Territory TANF Management*

6:00 PM

**Networking Reception**

7:00 PM

**Dinner on your own**

**July 29, 2005**

7:30 – 8:30 AM

**Networking Session**

8:30 – 9:30 AM

**Re-engagement and Sanctions**

The law allows states to define noncompliance and determine the severity of the penalty. Exemption procedures help clients avoid sanctions and become reacquainted to benefits. Cities will take a closer look at re-engaging customers and realigning them with the appropriate resources. Cities will outline case management techniques, sanction policies, how to minimize time between activities, best practices to removing sanctions and re-engaging quickly, and new management strategies for groups that have been exempt.

**Speakers:** *Houston*  
*Los Angeles*

**Moderator:** *Al Fleming*  
*Program Specialist*  
*Division of State and Territory TANF Management*

9:30 – 11:00 AM

**City Pairs**

Cities will be paired into two groups and enter into in-depth discussions around designing a comprehensive approach to full engagement. Groups will use the ideas and approaches presented during the meeting to develop their model. Pairs may be determined prior to the event or adjusted based upon similarities and interest.

**Group 1** – *New York, Los Angeles, Atlanta*  
**Group 2** – *Houston, Philadelphia, Chicago, Minneapolis*

11:00 – 11:45 AM

**Report-out**

Cities will summarize the most important aspects gained during the previous session. Cities will share findings and critical strategies to moving towards next step.

**Moderator:** *Lisa Washington-Thomas*  
*Program Specialist*  
*Division of State and Territory TANF Management*

11:45 – 12:00 PM

**Closing Remarks**

*Lois A. Bell*  
*Director*  
*Division of State and Territory TANF Management*